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Nine new power drills have recently been received by the Industries Department and they will be allotted to the various districts and Tiruchirappalli will have its quota.''

SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR :—'' கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, சென்ற பத்து நாட்களுக்கு முன்பு திருச்சிராப்பள்ளி ஜில்லா, இண்டஸ்ட்ரீஸ் உதவி டைரக்டரிடம் ஒரே ஒரு Power drill தான் இருந்தது. ஆனால் இரண்டு இருப்பதாக கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொன்னார்கள். இரண்டு செட்டுகள் இருக்கின்றன என்றால் ஒன்று சரியாக வேலை செய்ய வில்லையா? Working conditionல் எவ்வளவு நாட்களாக இல்லை? இன்னொரு செட் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று அவர் எழுதியிருக்கிறாரா ? ''

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—'' The Assistant Director of Industries has got two districts in his jurisdiction, viz., Tiruchirappalli and Madurai. The power drills have to be distributed between Tiruchirappalli and Madurai. Therefore, there is only one power drill in Tiruchirappalli district.''

Maintenance of Manamadurai-Ramanathapuram road.

* 652 *Q.*—SRI G. GOVINDAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government for the proper maintenance of the old Manamadurai-Ramanathapuram road?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—'' The road referred to by the Member is maintrained in a fair condition and no special steps are called for.''

SRI G. GOVINDAN :—'' சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, பழைய மானா மதுரை-ராமநாதபுரம் ரோடை செப்பனிடுவதாக இருந்தால் நயினார் கோவில் ரோடையும், அதிலுள்ள வைகையாறு உடையப்பா பாலத்தையும் சீர்திருத்தம் செய்வார்களா ?''

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—'' The hon. Member seems to refer to the road between Manamadurai and Paramakudi and to the new bridge that was recently constructed. Let him put a separate question. I shall consider it, Sir.''

Appointment of gazetted officers under the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Act.

* 653 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many gazetted officers under the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Act were appointed up to the year 1952; and

(*b*) why no Harijan has been appointed as a gazetted officer in the department?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—'' (*a*) From 30th September 1951 (i.e., from the date of coming into force of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Act, 1951) till

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the end of 1952, 19 Gazetted Officers of Hindu Religious Endowment Board were absorbed in the new Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department, two Gazetted Officers were appointed by transfer from the Judicial Department, 5 by transfer from subordinate services and 6 by direct recruitment.

" (*b*) There was no Harijan eligible for appointment as Gazetted Officer either before or after 30th September 1951. In respect of direct recruitment, held in 1952, no applicant belonging to Scheduled Castes applied for the post of Assistant Commissioners."

Sri A. RATNAM :—" சார், இந்த இலாகாவில் கெஜட் உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களாக வருவதென்றால் என்ன யோக்கியதாம்சம் இருக்க வேண்டும், எந்த அளவிற்குப் படித்திருக்கவேண்டும் என்பதையும் அறிய விரும்புகிறேன். "

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" There is no particular qualification prescribed for it. If suitable candidates are available from the Harijan community, their case will be considered very sympathetically."

Sri R. S. ARUMUGAM :—" இனிமேலாவது இந்த இலாக்காவில் அதிகப்படியான ஹரிஜனங்களை நியமிப்பதற்கு அரசாங்கம் கவனிக்குமா ? "

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" As I said, when applications are received from members of the Harijan community and when vacancies arise, their applications will be considered very very sympathetically."

Sri K. C. GOPALAN UNNI :—" In view of the recent judgment of the Supreme Court declaring certain sections of the Hindu Religious Endowments Act as void, may I know whether there is any proposal to retrench anybody from the department? "

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" A separate question may be put, Sir."

Sri V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" Of the Gazetted Officers in the department, how many are from the Backward Classes? "

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Notice, Sir."

Sri K. VINAYAKAM :—" I was surprised to hear the answer of the Hon. Minister that there was no particular qualification prescribed for the Gazetted Officers' posts in the department. It is not proper and it is not the correct state of affairs. He further said that if suitable candidates were forthcoming, he would consider their case sympathetically. May I know what kind of suitability do the Hon. Minister and the Government consider necessary for these posts? "

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Sir, suitability in the opinion of the Government."